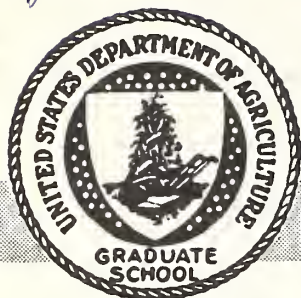


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Newsletter



GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

January 9, 1959

To the Faculty, Committee Members and
others associated with the Graduate School:

OUR CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

- 6 Faculty luncheon "Observations on Russia" by Sherman Johnson
 - 7 SCIENCE series - "Elementary Particles in Parity" by R. W. Hayward
(3 p.m. Jefferson auditorium)
 - 21 SCIENCE series - "Interaction of Monoamin E Oxidase Inhibitors
(Psychic Energizers) with Brain Hormones" by
Sydney Spector (3 p.m. Jefferson auditorium)
 - 24 Workshop - "How We Teach" -- for Instructors and Committee Members
(9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Kenwood Country Club)
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As we begin the spring 1959 semester of the Graduate School, arrangements have been made for our faculty and committee members to share in a consideration of successful experiences in teaching. You are cordially invited to spend Saturday, January 24, at the Kenwood Country Club, participating in a workshop on good teaching. Several of our instructors have prepared case studies, setting forth problems that we are asking you to help solve. We are inviting several specialists in higher education to serve as our consultants.

We very much hope that you will want to join us. Details of the program will be sent out shortly. We are promised a stimulating session by a committee composed of Mary Louise Collings, chairman; Richard Cowan; John Garnett; C. C. Hearne; C. O. Henderson; C. H. Hoffman; Erwin Jaffe; Claire Ruppert, Henry Starns; and B. Ralph Stauber.

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REGISTRATION FOR THE SECOND SEMESTER begins January 31. Many of you have told us your students were pleased to have the schedules well before the close of the second semester.

You will note a number of new courses - 12 in fact - that have not been given before in the spring semester. They are:

Systematic Botany of Wild Flowers with Richard S. Cowan of the Smithsonian Institution as instructor as a spring course; it was given in the summer of 1958; How to Increase Your Learning Efficiency, taught by J. A. Saunders; College Rhetoric, taught by Philip Eisenberg of the Library of Congress.

There are two in the department of mathematics and statistics: Special Problems in Operations Research to be conducted by Saul I. Gass of IBM and Herbert Glazer of Defense; and Introduction to Probability Theory and Process, taught by Jacob B. Chassan of Health, Education, and Welfare.

John W. Walker of Agriculture's Office of Budget and Finance will teach Federal Budgetary Procedure: Budget Execution and Budget Control. Fred Schulman, Office of Naval Research will give Science and the Modern World. Martin Kriesberg of Agricultural Marketing Service is instructor for Government Policy and the National Economy. Arthur F. Raper of the International Cooperation Administration will give Rural Social Patterns of Agricultural Regions of the United States.

We have three new courses in the department of technology: Introduction to Jet Turbo Prop and Rocket Power Plants taught by William H. Cullen of the Navy; Advanced Home Movie Making taught by Harrison F. Houghton of Justice; and Physical Metallurgy for Engineers taught by Abner R. Willner of the David Taylor Model Basin.

We welcome eight new instructors who will teach in the place of people who have resigned for various reasons. They are Paul D. Alden of the National Security Agency who will give Introduction to Cataloging and Classification; William N. Ellis of the National Science Foundation, Review of Calculus; Richard Gabel, Rural Electrification Administration, College Algebra; Gustav Hertz, International Cooperation Administration, Techniques of Organization; Norman B. Beckman, Bureau of the Budget, Contemporary Trends in Public Administration; Herbert L. Perlman, Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, Business Law; Eugene Stammeyer, Health, Education, and Welfare, Child and Adolescent Psychology; and Dorothea P. Michelson, National Gallery of Art, Modern Painters.

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When is an adult educated? Education is continuous, it never ends. The more education the undereducated has, the better prepared he is to meet the economic and social demands of the modern world. In fact, continued learning is a condition of survival. It assures that one will stay mentally alive and creatively active. Adult education can preserve the zest in each individual that makes life worth living.

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A SUMMARY OF GRADUATE SCHOOL LECTURES

November 26. - A CENTURY AFTER DARWIN published "Origin of the Species," biochemists are beginning to document the concept of evolution at the molecular level.

C. B. Anfinsen of the National Heart Institute and a member of the Graduate School faculty, sketched some of the important recent advances in his lecture, "Molecular Patterns of Life and Their Origins," at the third in our SCIENCE lecture series.

The exciting advances, he told us, have come in the growth of knowledge of the chemistry of proteins. A clear picture of the chemical structure of proteins and how that bears on biological functions is the first step toward understanding the physical basis of life. The challenge is formidable because of the great diversity of roles that proteins play in living matter. They represent nearly half of the body's dry matter. Among proteins are the enzymes, some of the hormones, and the nucleoproteins of the genes as well as the proteins in the muscles, skin, and bones.

Powerful analytical techniques such as chromatography, electron microscopy, and X-ray diffraction are making it possible for scientists to gain a better understanding of protein make-up. In 1952 Frederick Sanger and co-workers in Great Britain obtained the first complete picture of the structure of insulin. The actual chemical structure of protein molecules in muscles is becoming known.

Other research is showing that the structure of the nucleic acids, the main constituents of the genes, is similar to that of the protein molecule. A scale model, built by scientists in Great Britain, shows how DNA, one of the nucleic acids, might produce an exact copy of itself. This provides an important clue to how the genes serve as blueprints for an organism, and how the gene is capable of multiplication and of change.

December 10. - THE THRILL OF ROCKETS and satellites for scientists is in the way they have expanded man's view of the cosmos. Herbert Friedman of the Naval Research Laboratory outlined the gains in recent research in the fourth of our SCIENCE lectures.

Dr. Friedman pointed out that our window on the cosmos has been a narrow one, even with the most powerful telescopes. The view has been blocked by atmospheric gases, water vapor, and the ionosphere. Rockets and satellites have extended our horizons to an unparalleled degree.

With rockets, scientists have discovered a band of intense radiation (the Van Allen ring) encircling the earth. They have learned that the earth's atmosphere extends further and is much more dense than they formerly believed, and that the sun's corona practically merges with the earth's atmosphere. In Dr. Friedman's opinion, we have a long way to go before we can get a man in outer space. The exciting results in the immediate future will come with simple instruments doing exploratory work in the skies.

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NEWS ABOUT US

Jack Koteen, who has been teaching our course in Techniques of Organization, left December 13 for two months temporary duty as Public Services Advisor, ICA, in Yugoslavia. He is stationed in Belgrade.

Among our Christmas letters was an interesting one from Manlio De Angelis, who is on a special ICA assignment at the University of Bologna, which Manny tells us was founded in 1088. Three years ago with ICA help, a Graduate School in Administrative Sciences was established to stimulate research and training in public administration in Italy. The student body of 50-60 is made up of government officials sent by their Ministries with full pay and allowances for an academic year. Manny is one of four Americans who are teaching specialized administrative courses.

On February 1, Lynn W. Eley, a former instructor in the Graduate School, will become associate director of the University of Michigan Extension Service. For the past three and a half years, Dr. Eley has been research associate in the Institute of Public Administration and has served as secretary of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Reorganization of State Government, executive secretary of the Governor's Science Advisory Board, and president of the Lansing chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

A new book that is being highly praised by reviewers is Modern Foreign Languages in the High School. Editor is Marjorie C. Johnston.

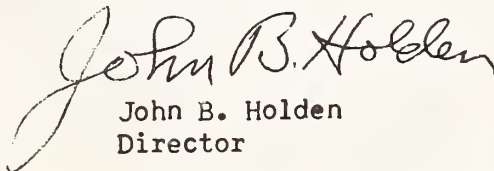
J. K. McClarren, chairman of our department of languages and literature, has given us a program for the seventh annual USDA visual workshop, which will be held January 26-30. In addition to a series of lectures, films, and demonstrations, there will be a trade show in which 30 companies will display new audio-visual equipment and materials in the patio of the Administration Building, Agriculture.

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For the sixth consecutive year total enrollments in accredited colleges are up. In spite of the lapse of VA scholarships, the economic recession, and a high school class no larger than in 1957, the number of full time college students increased 4.7 percent as compared with 2.7 percent in 1957, according to the Walters survey.

Our best wishes for a happy New Year.

Sincerely,


John B. Holden
Director